

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 03646 020904Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 INR-07 /020 W  
-----030037 020907Z /21

O 011549Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7118

UNCLAS LUSAKA 3646

FOR IOP/M

FOR IBS/PA,PASS IPS

STATE FOR AF/E AND AF/S

E.O. 11652: N/A  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

THE PARTY-OWNED TIMES OF ZAMBIA, HAS CALLED ON SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER, JOHN VORSTER, TO START MAKING SERIOUS EFFORTS IN ELIMINATING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN SOUTH AFRICA. IN AN EDITORIAL TODAY, WHICH COMES IN THE WAKE OF MR. VORSTER'S CERTAIN VICTORY IN YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS, THE TIMES WRITES:

"WITH THE POWER OF THE ELECTORATE BEHIND HIM, HE MUST START DISMANTLING APARTHEID WITHIN THE NEXT TWO YEARS."

DURING THE NEXT FOUR YERAS, SAYS THE TIMES EDITORIAL, MR. VORSTER WILL HAVE TO TAKE DECISIONS THAT WILL AFFECT THE SURVIVAL OF SOUTH AFRICA, AND WARNS THAT IF HE TAKES THE WRONG DECISIONS, "NOTHING CAN SAVE SOUTH AFRICA FROM A RACIAL HOLOCAUST WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE TO TEN YEARS."

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IN WORKING TOWARDS CHANGE, THE PAPER POINTS OUT, "NO ONE EXPECTS SOUTH AFRICA TO BE TURNED INTO A ONW HUNDRED PER CENT DEMOCRACY OVERNIGHT."

"BUT THE FIRST STEPS MUST BE TAKEN NOW TOWARDS HUMAN DIGNITY AND MAJORITY RULE," THE TIMES SAYS.

IT SAYS COLOR BAR MUST GO. IMMORALITY LAWS MUST BE REPEALED. JOB RESERVATION, DISCRIMINATORY WAGE RATES AND MANY OTHER ASPECTS THAT BUTTRESS APARTHEID MUST GO, AND THE "HIDEOUS APPARATUS OF THE POLICE STATE" MUST BE THROWN AWAY.

SAYS THE TIMES: "THE BLACKS IN SOUTH AFRICA DO NOT WANT TO DRIVE THE BOERS AND OTHERWHITES INTO THE SEA. THEY WILL DO SO IF IT IS THE ONLY WAY TO ACHIEVE DIGNITY AND OPPORTUNITY IN THEIR OWN LAND."

THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDES BY WARNING THAT THE LAST YEARS OF WHITE RULE IN SOUTH AFRICA ARE IN SIGHT.

IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT, A SPECIAL PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE HAS RECOMMENDED HERE THAT THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF ZAMBIA'S ONLY LEGAL POLITICAL PARTY, UNIP, SHOULD BE ABOLISHED AND REVERT TO THE OLD PART-TIME SYSTEM.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT ITS MEMBERS SHOULD BE ELECTED BY PUBLIC BALLOT.

THE COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY FINANCE MINISTER, JOHN MWANAKATWE, ALSO SAID THAT THE POSTS OF PROVINCIAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER, CABINET MINISTER AND PROVINCIAL POLITICAL SECRETARY SHOULD BE SCRAPPED AS WELL BECAUSE THEY ONLY

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DUPLICATED RESPONSIBILITIES.

INSTEAD, THE JOBS SHOULD BE PERFORMED BY ONE MAN, A RESIDENT COMMISSIONER APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT. THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE WAS APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT KAUNDA TO RE-EXAMINE THE EXISTING POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE IN ZAMBIA. ITEM USIS LUSAKA.

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## Message Attributes

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